THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M. V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Number of main workers in age groups 15—34 years as per demographic census 1991 and 2001 are given below:

Table: Main Workers (15—34 years age) Enumerated in Census 1991 and 2001.

Age-group	1991	2001
15-19	24764448	20642416
20-24	36310428	35442698
25-29	40400560	42269247
30-34	36603173	42049980

It may be seen that the number of main workers, enumerated, in census in age-groups 15-19 and 20-24 has decreased by 4.12 million and 0.87 million respectively, and in age groups 25-29 and 30-34, it increased by 1.87 million and 5.45 million respectively during 1991 and 2001.

(c) Tenth Plan envisages creation of 50 million employment opportunities during 2002-07. To create employment potential, Tenth Plan has identified the labour intensive sectors and sub-sectors for development like agriculture, including social forestry, animal husbandry, fishing, horticulture and related areas and small and medium industries, construction, tourism, information technology, financial sector, education and health. In addition, Government is also implementing special employment schemes like Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) for educated youth, Rural Employment Guarantee Programme (REGP) and Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), benefit of which are also available to youth.

New model for weather prediction

1204. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to switch over to new model of weather prediction and monsoon forecasting; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the new model and the country from which it would be acquired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to initially use a very high resolution (tens of km. in horizontal) Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) model in a joint Indo-US collaborative demonstration experiment of land falling, tropical cyclones in the Bay of Bengal. The WRF model is expected to significantly improve track and intensity prediction of cyclones and thus help in our National Disaster Management Programme. If found suitable after thorough testing and tuning, it may be considered for weather prediction later.

(b) The WRF model has been developed as a community model by a number of groups jointly, spread in various countries, National Centre for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), USA being the steering force. Its present version has already been adapted by a number of research and operational groups in USA, China, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, India etc. It is claimed to be a very advanced system for atmospheric modeling which can be successfully applied for weather prediction and even seasonal prediction of monsoon.

FDI in Biotech Industry

1205. SHRIMATI N. P. DURGA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to create US $ 5 million biotechnology industry by 2010, Government have decided to allow 100 percent FDI through automatic route;

(b) whether it means that the biotechnology industry is exempted from compulsory licensing; and

(c) the fiscal incentives that Government are proposing to extend to biotech industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) has proposed 100% FDI through automatic route in biotech sector. The Department of Biotechnology has recommended the same to DIPP, which is the nodal Department for framing Policy on Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). Only with the amendment in Industry (Development and Regulation) Act 1951 by the DIPP, Ministry of Commerce and Industry and amendment in Pharmaceutical Policy 2002 by Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, the biotech sector can be out of compulsory licensing.